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HABITAT: *OENEIS MACOUNII* EDWARDS

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Oeneis macounii occurs in jack-pine forest associations from Alberta to Central Ontario. The photographs (Fig. 1) were taken on a sandy ridge overlooking the Norgate Road in Riding Mountain National Park, Manitoba. These jack-pine association normally occur on sandy or loamy soil that favors the growth of jack pine over other trees. Jack pine (*Pinus banksiana* Lamb.) is always present as an indicator species, although it may comprise only 15-50% of the larger trees in the association. Bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum* L.) is very frequent in the substory growth, along with Blueberry (*Vaccinium aquilinum* L.) and Velvet-leaf (*Vaccinium myrtilloides* Michx.). Various species of Sedge (*Carex* species), the probable *macounii* foodplants, predominate over grasses. The only grass that is consistently found in these associations is Mountain Rice (*Oryzopsis asperifolia* Michx.).

Oeneis macounii has a biennial life-cycle that produces adults once every two years. At this locality, adults can be observed only in odd-numbered years.



Fig. 1.—Habitat: *Oeneis macounii* Edws.